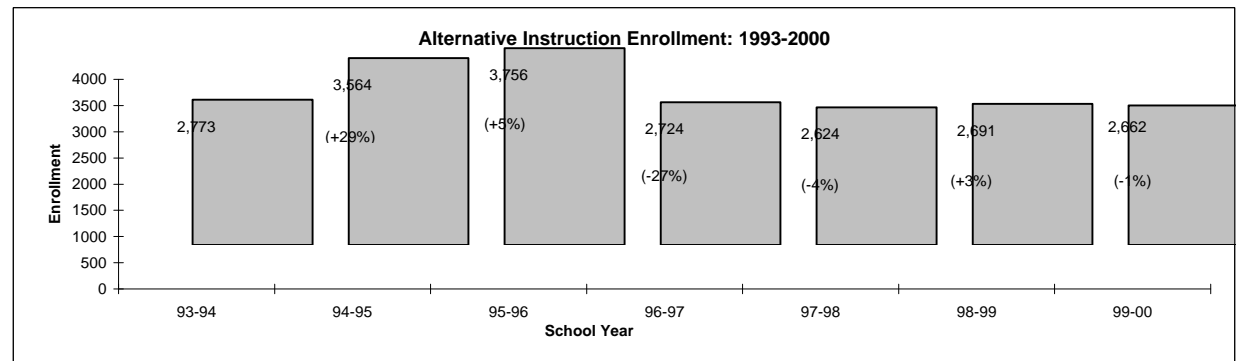


ALTERNATIVE INSTRUCTION / HOME SCHOOLING

FY2000 PARTICIPATION SUMMARY

Site Type	# of Sites	# of Students
Total Home Sites	1,189	2,048
Total Church Sponsored Program Sites	48	614
Total Alternative Instruction Sites	1,237	2,662

FALL 1999 ENROLLMENT	
Grade	Enrollment
Kindergarten	144
1-4	1,058
5-8	1,083
9-12	377
Total	2,662



THE TYPICAL STUDENT OF ALTERNATIVE INSTRUCTION:

Keeping in mind the doubled chance for self-selection to influence the results of survey research, one can still try to construct a rough profile of alternative instruction families. While there is variation among surveys, certain characteristics seem to be emerging. Compared to the general population, alternative instruction families seem to be more religious, more conservative, white, somewhat more affluent and with somewhat more years of education, and more likely to be a two-parent family. There are usually two children of school age who are receiving alternative instruction, and a third, usually younger, in the family. Typically, the mother takes the largest share of the teaching responsibility, but the father participates. In some families fathers are the major player in the alternative instruction activities.



ALTERNATIVE INSTRUCTION SUMMARY:

Alternative instruction (homeschooling) is a small but growing practice in which parents design and implement educational programs for school-aged children. The activity replaces full-time, in-school programs and is used to satisfy state compulsory education requirements. It takes place primarily in a family setting or in a nearby community. Normally parents plan and implement the learning program, although sometimes they may find a tutor and sometimes older children may organize their own independent study. It may be structured or unstructured; it may be affiliated with a public or private school in some way; it may involve shared lessons with other alternative instruction families. Although usually based at home, it often extends beyond the home. Alternative instruction families visit libraries, museums, factories, homes for the aged, churches, and, in some cases, they attend classes. Some attend public and/or private school, a community school or some other special program for one or more sessions each week.